

taken up in your province, we could give no orders here for their safe Custody.

“Maj^r Connelly was taken above Frederick Town in Maryland, in his way to the Indian Country and with him a Doct^r Smith from Charles County & one Cameron, they are all now fast by the heels in the Goal of Frederick Town. Connelly we are told, had with him a Commission from Gen^l Gage to raise a number of Indians, & with them to penetrate, thro the Country towards Alexandria, in the spring, where he would be met by Lord Dunmore. Commissions for the other two were to be furnished hereafter.”

Who this Doct^r Smith is I know not, Cameron I take to be the deputy Indian agent to the southward, from whom a letter was intercepted last July, advising the government to raise a number of the Creek & Cherokee nations, to fall upon the back Inhabitants, offering his service upon the occasion, & boasting of his Interest with these Indians. I make no doubt but your Board will take proper measures to prevent the escape of such dangerous men, and am, with the greatest Respect,

Gentⁿ Your most obd^t Serv^t
G. Mason.

[Cowley to Washington?]

May it please your Excellency

Sir. I hope you will please to pardon my taking the liberty of laying these few lines before your excellency, but if I had not I should have thought it would have been doing a great injustice to my conscience, & I think every well meaning man who is a real friend to liberty would join in my sentiments to stop such outrageous actions & rebellious works which are going to be put into execution please your Excellency I lived along with Major John Connelly of Fort Pitt have done this two years last July he was obliged to retire from Fort Pitt the Inhabitants had a suspicion of his being an enemy to his country from thence I went with him down to Portsmouth in Virginia where he got on Board his Excellency Lord Dunmores ship the Royal William where we staid fourteen days & from thence he sail^d in his Lordships Tender the Arundel for Boston with dispatches to General Gage from Lord Dunmore there we staid ten days from thence we sail^d to Newport Rhode Island conveyed by the Viper sloop of War of 12 guns commanded by Cap^t Thomas Greaves & from Rhode Island is to be conveyed to New York & there the Viper parts with her & she is to Portsmouth by herself. As I was one day with the Major in the State room just after we left Boston he asked me